

V. REMARKS

The Office Action asserts that the title of the invention is not descriptive. The title of the invention has been changed as indicated above. It is respectfully submitted that the new title of the invention is now descriptive.

Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10, 11, 15, 18-22, 25, 27, 29, 30 and 34-37 re rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Lee et al. (JP09-009153). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Lee et al. discloses an image pickup panel and a method of eliminating residual charge therefrom. The pickup panel includes a base layer made of a dielectric material, a plurality of sensors having detecting elements, and a radiation sensitive layer. Light emitting panels are arranged adjacent the lower surface of the base layer to supply light radiation to the base layer. The light radiation reaches the lower surface of the radiation sensitive layer.

Indeed, Lee et al. discloses exposing means (L) arranged above and below the radiation detector for emitting light to the semiconductor. However, in paragraph [0038] of its publication, Lee et al. states, "In time of operation ... is incident ... However, before emitting X rays in a uniform pattern to the patient, the residual charge in the image pickup panel 10 is minimized ...". In paragraph [0042], Lee et al. states, "in such an order that after the read signals are restored, ... the amplitude distribution of residual charge is reduced, ... and the residual charge is completely eliminated."

That is, Lee et al. neither discloses nor suggests the feature of claims 1 and 15 of this application that light is emitted during detection of the radiation. Therefore, Lee et al. does not constitute a bar to the novelty of claims 1 and 15 of this application.

The present invention is characterized in that charges are collected by emitting light at least during detection of the radiation, thereby eliminating after-outputs and sensitivity variations. Such construction and functional effect are not disclosed in or suggested by Lee et al.

That is, Lee et al. does not disclose or suggest the following functions or effects.

Functions:

- a. By emitting light, the charges collect in areas between the split electrodes, and the lines of electric force are distorted.
- b. Change in the lines of electric force is suppressed at least during the light emission.

Effects:

- a. Information of electric signals required as radiation incidence information is not affected.
- b. No sensitivity variations (sensitive area variations) or afteroutputs occur.

It is respectfully submitted that that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each element of claims 1 and 15 as discussed above. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 15 are allowable over the applied art.

Claims 4-6, 8, 10, 11, 34 and 35 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Claims 18-22, 25, 27, 29, 30 and 34-37 depend from claim 15 and include all of the features of claim 15. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason the independent claims are allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 38 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Lee. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 38 depends from claims 1 and 15 and includes all of the features of these claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 38 is allowable at least for the reason the independent claims are allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better

condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal

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